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Fall 2003

UA66/5 Newsletter

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Western Kentucky University

Department of Agriculture

Newsletter



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Fall 2003

Comments from the Department Head Dr. Jenks Britt

Homecoming

Plan now to attend **Homecoming** on **November 1, 2003**. This year we are recognizing our graduates with reunions based on year of graduation at 5-year intervals. If you graduated in '98, '93, '88, '83, '78, '73, '68, '63, '58, '53, '48, '43, '38, or '33 you have a special invitation to attend this event. Names of our graduates came from the WKU alumni list and "Road to Excellence", Mr. H. C. Cary's history of agriculture at WKU. **Details of the Homecoming activities follow.** Of course, if you did not graduate in one of those years, you still have a special invitation to attend.

Homecoming Luncheon

This years **Homecoming** will feature pre-luncheon **FARM TOURS** by the Agriculture Ambassadors from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon at the EXPO Center. Agriculture alumni will meet at 11:30 a.m. and the luncheon will be at 12:30 p.m. at the EXPO Center (not Garrett).

Door Prizes - Diddle Arena Chairs

The Department of Agriculture has some of the old seats from Diddle Arena. A pair of mounted seats will be awarded (by drawing of name) to an alumnus who returns the information sheet from the back of this newsletter or e-mails the information to agriculture@wku.edu by December 1, 2003.

There will be a door prize drawing at the Homecoming Luncheon for a second pair of seats. You must be present at the luncheon to be

eligible for this set. If you win a set at the luncheon, you will not be eligible for a second set.

WKU Field Day - 2003

Thanks for a great job of organization by farm manager and field day chairman **Tim Hughes**. The South Central Kentucky Agriculture Field Day was a great success. Over 400 people attended either the special guest dinner on the 23rd of July or the field day on July 24th.

USDA-ARS Expanding

The United States Department of Agriculture - Agriculture Research Service (USDA-ARS) will be locating up to 4 modular laboratories on the University Farm. With the idea that in 5 years a permanent brick structure will be located either on the farm or on campus. The mission of the lab is to study animal waste management and water quality. Up to 5 full time scientists plus a staff of 10 or so will create opportunities for both faculty and students to become more involved in agriculture research. WKU agriculture has already received more than **\$1,000,000** in funding for this animal waste and forage research. One laboratory on campus is already dedicated to ARS research activities.

New Faculty Member

Dr. Martin Stone joined our faculty in August as an Assistant Professor in Horticulture. Dr. Stone received his PhD from Texas A & M University. In addition to teaching he owns a landscape business. We believe Dr. Stone's business experience will be very useful to our students.

Congratulations

Congratulations are due to **Dr. Gordon Jones** for being named the University's outstanding faculty member for advising. Dr. Jones advises over 100 students each semester. His advisees are students in Animal Science or Pre-Vet. Not only does he advise undergraduates he also advises graduate students in Animal Science. WKU Agriculture has an excellent record in the acceptance rate of our students to Veterinary School at Auburn and the primary reason is the efforts put forth by Dr. Jones in guiding these students in the right direction. Congratulations Gordon on a job well done.

??? Million

Pete Dotson will be heading up an effort to increase our scholarship endowment to **one million dollars**. This will allow us to give fifty \$1,000 scholarships yearly. Endowments can spend 5% of the endowment fund yearly. By using this conservative amount in most years, the endowment will increase in value. Pete will be calling on most of you to help us reach the **\$1,000,000 goal**. Early contributors who can give \$50,000 may have their gifts matched by the state. Donations are given over a five year period and to qualify for matching funds contributions do not have to be given by a single individual. Family groups or other groups may qualify. This is your opportunity to show your gratitude to the Department of Agriculture for its continued outstanding performance. Our scholarship endowment now stands at about \$250,000.

2nd in Nation

Four WKU dairy science students competed in this years **2003 North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge**. The contest was held in April at Michigan State University and Western competed against 23 teams from across the country. The two-day contest measures the student's ability to evaluate management on dairy farms and suggest management changes that would make the farms more profitable. The first day the students are given a packet of information about the farm including

DHIA records, rations, financial records, and other printed information. The four member teams also have a 12 and a 15-minute period in which they may ask questions of the farm manager. They then have a 90-minute period in which they may view the farm facilities and watch milking, feeding and other procedures. After the farm visit the students are given six hours, under supervised conditions (no outside contact) to discuss their findings and to prepare a power point computer presentation of their evaluation of the farm's management.

The second day the four team members have 20 minutes to present their findings to a group of judges. Each team member must present five minutes and when finished the team is questioned by the judges.

Western's team made up of **Chad Bishop** from Magnolia, KY, **Brandon Davis** and **Brent Mays** from Greensburg, KY, and **Andy Pike** from Campbellsville, KY, finished 2nd in the nation ahead of teams from Ohio State, Michigan State, Penn State, Iowa State, University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Purdue, Texas A&M, University of Florida and several other schools. Team members received plaques and scholarships. **Jenks Britt** was the team's coach.

Ag Expo Center

We also welcome **Mr. Darrin Benton** as the new Director of the L.D. Brown Agricultural Exposition Center. Darrin graduated from WKU in 1997 and has been with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture in the division of Shows and Fairs since 1998. Darrin has brought changes to the Expo Center that you can see first hand when you attend the homecoming alumni luncheon. In addition to managing the Expo Center, Darrin is quite active in judging national livestock shows across the U.S. Darrin and his wife Tammy have two children.

Agriculture Ambassadors

The 2003-04 Agriculture Ambassadors are:

Ricky Arnett - Greensburg, KY
Emily Branstetter - Hardyville, KY
Erin Brown - Noblesville, IN
Pam Coffey - Nancy, KY
Lindsey Cottrell - Upton, KY
Brandon Davis - Greensburg, KY
Brandon Garnett - Hopkinsville, KY
Holly Gilpin - Campbellsville, KY
Whitney LeGrand - Warsaw, KY
Andy Pike - Campbellsville, KY

The **Agriculture Ambassadors** along with their advisors **Drs. Jones** and **Sleugh** are leading our student recruitment efforts through our early admission program, phonathon, school visits and "Focus on Western". As alumni you can help us recruit by sending us the names of students or if you are teaching, allowing us to visit your school.

Our early admission program allows students to be admitted in November 2003 for the fall of 2004. This early admission puts the students who participate at an advantage because they are allowed to register early, thus there is a good chance they will get the classes they want as first semester freshmen

Agronomy News

This past year has been an exciting and productive one. We, along with our graduate students David Embrey and Jason Simmons attended the annual American Society of Agronomy meeting in Indianapolis, IN during November 2002 where we presented papers and viewed paper and posters related to Agronomic research. During April 2003, Drs. Sleugh and Willian accompanied a number of undergraduate and graduate students to the American Forage and Grasslands Council annual meeting in Lafayette, LA. Dr. Sleugh and David Embrey gave oral presentations at the meeting, everyone enjoyed the meeting and the hospitality so graciously bestowed by the conference hosts.

Our research continues to focus primarily on best management practices involved in the utilization of poultry litter as a fertilizer source for forage and field crops. We are working cooperatively with USDA-ARS on this project. Dr. Karamat Sistani, a USDA-ARS Soil Scientist, was recently relocated to the WKU campus. Dr. Sistani is working cooperatively with us on this project, we're very happy to be working with such a competent and personable scientist. We welcomed a new person to our research effort this year; **Ms. Holly Henderson** was hired in July as a Research Technician associated with the USDA-ARS funded waste management research. Finally, we are looking forward to occupying our just completed Agronomy Research Building located at the AREC. This structure will be an expanded version of our previous structure, having increased space for storage, supplies and equipment. - **Dr. Becky Gilfillen, Dr. Byron Sleugh, Dr. Todd Willian**

Horticulture News

I am the new faculty member, Dr. Martin Stone, and am excited to be a part of the Western Tradition. I am learning on Dr. James Martin and Roger Dennis for mentoring and assistance. It is quite a luxury to have them for guidance. Besides Dr. Martin and Roger, everyone has made me feel very welcome to the department.

I come to Western after having owned a successful greenhouse, nursery, and landscape business in Oklahoma. The cold hardiness zone is the same so the plants are very familiar, indeed. I am excited about sharing the technical skills of horticulture but also about giving them insight into the business aspects of the profession, too. My B.S. and M.S. degrees are from Oklahoma State University and I hold a Ph.D. from Texas A&M University.

The greenhouses behind the EST building are undergoing a much-needed facelift. They will be getting new covering that will increase their utility greatly. Now the research projects can expand to more than mosses and ferns. We have great plans for teaching and research projects in the new

greenhouse. The new coverings are being funded by a grant and we hope to be using them by the end of September.

I am excited to begin writing for the magazine, 'Kentucky Gardener', beginning with the February 2004 issue. I will be on the hot seat each month in the column, 'Ask The Expert'. It will be a great opportunity to publicize our department and university.

I look forward to a busy, wonderful year of teaching, meeting students, and getting to know our alumni. Here's to a great year. - **Dr. Martin Stone**

Turf News

My first year on the hill has been an exciting and busy time. Our student enrollment in the turfgrass program has remained steady (40-45 students). This past year we had four graduates receive jobs in Louisville, Owensboro, Shepardsville, KY and Atlanta, GA. The Turf Club attended the annual GCSAA conference in Atlanta, GA. This year they plan to travel to San Diego, CA for the conference among other activities. **A golf scramble is being held for the Turf Club on October 25 at Hobson Grove Course in Bowling Green, KY. We would like to have an alumni team. Please contact me (270-745-5967) if you are interested.**

The turf program has received more funding for research this past year than any other year in history. The Kentucky Turfgrass Council has donated the vast majority of funds. New research projects have been initiated at the Taylor Center and Crosswinds Golf Course. The projects include: spring dead spot control, annual bluegrass control on putting greens, suppression of annual bluegrass seedheads on putting greens, and over-seeding newly established seeded bermudagrass. It is my hope that results from these projects can prove significant value to turfgrass managers in Kentucky. I'm looking forward for another exciting, and hopefully, less hectic year here at WKU. - **Dr. Paul Woosley**

Block & Bridle News

The 2003-2004 WKU Block and Bridle year has started off with dedicated and goal oriented officers, which are ready to take their members on an academic year full of adventure.

The 2003-2004 officer team is: President, Ricky Arnett; Vice President, Whitney LeGrand; Secretary, Emily Bishop; Treasurer, Erin Brown; Reporter, Kristie Haynes; Marshal, Tim Zoglmann; BBQ Chairmen, John Rowley, Jonathon Berkshire, Evan Tate; Scrapbook Chairman, Fran Korthouse; Social Chairmen, Ashley Musselman, Amy McGee; Alumni Secretary, Holly Gilpin; and New Member Ambassador, A.J. Boden.

On July 25th, the officers retreated to KAO campground in Bowling Green to discuss plans and goals for the upcoming year. The following day was full of activity as the officers prepared for the annual summer party.

In August, with classes back in session, it was now time to recruit new members. The first week of September was Recruitment Week. There were events held every night that included the scavenger hunt on the farm, barnyard rodeo, volleyball, tailgating, and the tradition filled painting of the "B's."

In October, the social chairs have planned a trip to Lexington that will include visiting Keeneland and Maker's Mark Distillery. Beginning October 26th, B&B will begin construction of the float for Homecoming. The theme for Homecoming this year is Big Red's Haunted Hill. Halloween is the day before the big game and Block and Bridle will celebrate with a costume party. Admission to the party is either two cans of food or a money donation. All of the canned food collected will support needy families in our area for the holiday season.

In December, Block and Bridle will settle down and our members will head home for Christmas, but once the New Year rolls around we will be back

into the swing of things. The first item on our agenda will be planning for The National Convention which will be held in San Antonio, TX. This event is always a great experience for everyone.

WKU Block and Bridle is very excited about this year. Our officers plan to make this another award winning year. Block and Bridle officers and members would like to welcome and congratulate Darren Benton as our new B&B advisor. He was affiliated with Block and Bridle when he was a student here several years ago. He will be a great asset to our club and again, Congratulations!

Alpha Gamma Rho

Dear Alumni,

Homecoming will be November 1. Breakfast will start at 8:00 a.m. at the AGR house. The meeting will follow at 10:00 a.m. in Room 260 of EST and the Ag Alumni Luncheon will be held at 12:30 p.m. at the Ag Expo Center. Weather pending, we will tailgate before the game where Western will be playing Southern Illinois. We will have the dance at Reeds starting at 10:00 p.m.

The Spring formal will be held at the Executive Inn Rivermont in Owensboro, KY, on March 12 and 13. The Alumni meeting, dinner and dance is scheduled for the 13th. Further information will be sent at a later date. If at all possible, we would love it if you can attend these activities as well as your family.

This semester we have seven new initiates who are: Clay Devine of Morganfield, KY, Joey Blazina of Marion, KY, Daniel Hendrickson of Morganfield, KY, Addison Thomson of Cynthiana, KY, Ben Turley of Clay, KY, Brian Peyton of Evansville, IN and Will Grant of Portland, TN.

If you have any questions or know of any lost brothers that haven't been receiving letters, please contact us at (270) 842-9891 or e-mail us at wkuagrs@yahoo.com.

Sincerely,

Mark Wells, VNR Alumni Relations



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John H. Goff
Cesar O. Gonzalez
Robert L. Gouvas
Nancy Jo Gouvas
John W. Harlin
Troy R. Hawks
Barbara S. Hayter
Donald F. Helm, II
Troy T. Hobson
John D. Howard
Mary A. Ives
Ricardo A. Jimenez
Teresa J. Johnson
Charles B. Johnston
John N. Kipper
Lynne M. Klingeman
James N. Koller
James B. Koostira
Carey D. Lancaster
James C. Malyz
Davin B. Marcum
Kevin G. Marsch
Patricia L. McGuffin
Elizabeth A. McGuire
Greta L. McKinney
Judy L. Miller
Anson G. Muse
Charles R. Neely
Ted K. Orton
Michael A. Parrish
Kenneth E. Perry
James A. Pierce
Marvin S. Pillow
William J. Prewitt
Deborah L. Pyse
Alan P. Ross
Karen E. Ross
Christopher D. Sailors
William A. Sanders
Stephen P. Sheffer
James S. Smith
Marcia K. Spurlin
Christopher D. Thompson
Bruce Wadlington
Paul T. Whittle
Kelly L. Williams
Stacey L. Wilson
James R. Young
Thomas M. Young, Jr.

1983

Harry L. Adkisson
Mark D. Allen
Vivian M. Allen

Chris E. Alvey
Mark D. Antle
Kevin D. Arnold
Gregory R. Aydelotte
Wesley H. Aymett
Amelia F. Barbee
Eleisa A. Beckort
Regina J. Belt
John C. Brainard
Steven L. Brier
Jeffrey B. Broughton
Cynthia L. Calebs
Todd B. Calvert
Keith A. Casada
Richard G. Casada
William M. Coleman
Marilyn M. Cooper
Jeffrey E. Dickerson
Paul B. Doane
Bobbie E. Dowden
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Barry K. Fisher
Catherine A. Foster
Nader Fotouhi
John D. Glass
Gregory A. Glover
Margaret B. Graham
Robert S. Grant
Jon D. Hall
Patrick L. Hardesty
Kerry M. Hart
Ashley S.M. Haszard
Paul C. Hawkins
Elizabeth G. Heltsley
Michael L. Hitsman
David Holcomb
Thomas E. Holmes
Suzanne Hunt
William J. Jackman
Howard S. James, Jr.
Manduchehr N.
Katanbaf
William J. Kerr
Karen S. Klippel
Jack R. Koehl
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James A. Leslie
Hindman D. Loy
Luis E. Lozada
Thomas M. Maples
Miriam R.C. Martinez
Douglas Metz
Terrell G. Milby
Stephanie A. Miller
Richard L. Mims
Larry W. Monroe
Louis E. Naas
Daryoosh A. Nabati
Chartchai Nganthavee
Lori A. Ogden
Jamiyu Ogunlola
Marian C. Polaschock
Randy A. Rexroat
Jeffrey M. Rice
Kathy L. Rich
Melvin E. Riddle

Eugene F. Rizio
George T. Sandifer
John N. Sandifer
Michael S. Sapp
David D. Sarver
William E. Schultz
Jay C. Scott
Hassan Shanshaz
David W. Shannon
Stevie E. Shaw
Richard L. Stelter
John M. Shuffitt
Scott B. Singleton
Richard S. Staples
Robert J. Stratton, Jr.
Joe F. Summers
Eural D. Swetmon
Tinarat Taepabutr
Monsuru A. Tijani
Annette E. Vancleve
Cynthia D. Vanmeter
Jose B. Villegas
Douglas James Wheeler
Robert B. White
Thomas K. Wilkerson
Thomas G. Wilks
Ann C. Willis
George A. Wilson
Pamela J. Zeller

1978

Robert S. Allen
Carl L. Atherton
Steven J. Brandner
Joel D. Brashear
Patricia J. Cash
Mac S. Cherry
Ben T. Cox
Martin H. Cull
Mark A. Davis
Harold J. Elliott
Tommy L. Elliott
Douglas E. Emerson
Rachel L. Habermehl
Deborah L. Horton
Patricia M. Hubbuch
Patrick T. Jackson
Russell E. Kithcart
Lisa K. Kreisler
James A. Lowe
Jerry R. Martin
Aza L. Moody
Stanley L. Murphy
Steven T. Noland
James L. Oldham
Garnett M. Owens
Lawrence D. Perkins
Royce D. Pile
Maitland R. Remington
Sheryl A. Rogers
Earl S. Shive
Lee R. Sorrell
Wilson L. Stone
Mary C. Travelsted
Walter R. Whittedge
Lyle J. Wilt

1973

Patrick L. Baker
Rodney B. Baker
Stanley F. Baker
Randall L. Banks
Charles Q. Barnett
David W. Beatty
Earl W. Boswell
Jerry B. Branstetter
Michael K. Branstetter
Joe D. Bridgewater
Ronnie K. Brosnan
Boyce D. Bruner
Jeffery S. Canty
Don F. Carlisle
Roger D. Cardill
John T. Chaney
Kenneth W. Chapman
Robert E. Church
David M. Coffey
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William N. Davis
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John D. Garrett
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Murrell D. Graves
Philip W. Greenwell
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James L. Hughes
James M. Hughes
Randall K. Hurt
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Dale G. Kelley
Larry W. Koger
Darrel C. Law
Randal L. Littlepage
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Ronald M. Lyles
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Johnnie W. Mathias
Glenda S. Mayes
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Rex A. McWhorter
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Ferrell R. Oliver
Ronnie E. Paris
Robert A. Pelly
Jacky D. Pyles
Thomas R. Renfrow
Nowell Renick
James D. Richey
Mancil D. Robinson, II
Larry C. Rogers
Joe M. Ryan
Robert D. Ryan
Bobby W. Sandefur

H.M. Snodgrass
 Jerry W. Stahl
 Johnny E. Strode
 Gregory N. Tapp
 Jessie Thomas, Jr.
 James M. Wade
 James R. Wade, Jr.
 Lonnie P. Young

1968

Sammy L. Baker
 Donald M. Ball
 Franklin D. Barnes
 Louis T. Bischoff
 James M. Booth
 William D. Bowman
 Danny G. Britt
 Paul L. Delaet
 Rodney Dennis
 David L. Feldkamp
 Ira F. Fenimore
 Leon B. Ferguson
 David S. Fletcher
 William A. Hardcastle III
 John N. Henshaw
 John T. Johns
 Robert W. Keeton
 Robert L. Knifley
 Ronald R. Layman
 Joseph D. Miller
 William C. Nesmith, Jr.
 Phillip H. Page
 Rodney G. Perkins
 George T. Radford, Jr.
 Gary W. Roman
 Frank E. Rowland
 Kendell L. Seaton
 John E. Shirley
 Robert S. Shouse
 Gary G. Smith
 Billy O. Statton
 Johnny E. Strode
 Browder F. Tatum
 Wilford C. Voyles, Jr.
 Larry J. Winn

1963

Worth A. Anderson
 Frederick D. Alcott
 Hewel M. Blair
 Jerry L. Borders
 Harold G. Brantley
 Jimmie R. Calvert
 Steven H. Cole
 Joe R. Cowles
 Roger E. Dowdell
 Leo E. Esters
 John P. Fourqurean
 Bobby J. Grider
 William G. Hardin
 Dean G. Hart
 Franklin H. Hudson
 Billy C. Hughes
 Reuben R. Kissel
 John R. Likine
 Russell S. Logsdon
 Samuel L. McGuire, Jr.

Billy E. McKinney
 Chesley E. Nell
 William A. Norman
 Charles D. Oatts
 Tom H. Smith
 Harold B. Tarter
 Leight M. Wilson
 Glenn E. Witham

1958

Paul G. Austin
 Aaron E. Beals
 Joe W. Boles
 Willard R. Brawner, Jr.
 John C. Britt
 James L. Burns
 Robert A. Cartmill
 Eugene Coop
 Billy F. Duvall
 Willie R. Gettings
 Melvin K. Hargan
 Robert L. Hays
 Gordon O. Jones
 James T. May
 Robert D. Murphy
 David M. Prow
 Harry T. Rives
 Sammy J. Ross, Jr.
 Joseph M. Schureck
 Viralmi R. Shelton
 Robert G. Slone
 Lawrence W. Tandy
 S. Edward Thompson
 Robert B. Walker
 Perry C. Watson
 Larry C. Westerfield

1953

James W. Anderson
 Vernie D. Ashby
 Charles J. Bassett
 Charles O. Blair
 Gerald T. Cohron
 Thomas K. Decker
 Earl N. Duncan
 Joseph W. Durbin
 Roy L. Emmick
 Leslie D. Engler
 John L. Evans
 Chester R. Fancher
 Charles W. Ford
 Curry W. Hall
 William O. Jackson

Neal W. Jones
 John M. Kavanaugh
 Richard E. Larimore, Jr.
 Charles A. Livingston
 Mills M. Lowe
 Charles W. Martin, Jr.
 James E. Meyer
 H. Randolph Richards
 Bobby T. Shields
 Earl O. Shive
 Cyrus T. Smith
 Kenneth W. Tackett
 Harold B. Tarter
 Loyd K. Tarter
 Harry G. Thomas
 W.F. Tomkins, Jr.
 Martin W. Willson

1948

Herbert L. Anderson
 George C. Bennett
 Carline E. Brown
 Huel V. Buis
 William C. Butler
 Dalton Lee Canary
 Elliott S. Clifton
 James E. Coleman
 William Collins
 Robert L. Coppersmith
 Kenneth H. Elrod
 Lilgia F. Emmick
 John D. Graham
 James L. Hammer
 Earl C. Hatcher
 William B. Hatcher
 Estill A. Hazerigg
 Hubert L. Hickey
 H. Fraser Hodges
 John M. Howard
 English Jones
 John C. Karb
 Charles A. Kirkpatrick
 John T. Likens
 James D. Maddox
 Henry N. Markham
 Champ C. Martin
 Noble Midkiff
 John R. Miller
 Virgil L. Myers
 William A. Nipp
 William R. Owen
 Clyde M. Raymer
 Marlon Raymer
 Paul M. Saalwaechter
 Lenwood S. Shirrell
 James M. Slinker
 Thomas G. Steen
 Arthur L. Stringer
 Virgil Sutherland

Nelson Sweeney
 Jasper Thompson
 Archus W. Tucker
 James D. Tuggle
 Joseph Wilson
 James R. Woosley
 James C. Zachary

1943

Gay Aker
 Chester Basham
 Ralph Bushong
 Neal Calhoun
 Gavin G. Craig, Jr.
 William G. Edds
 James H. Ferguson
 William Fox
 Ernest S. Johnston
 John J. Lindsey
 William E. McGaughey
 Cleo Rigney
 Charles D. Shouse

1938

Manuel B. Arnett
 Conn Q. Barnett
 John T. Buck
 Stanley DeBoe
 Joe P. Duke
 C.O. Evans, Jr.
 Woodson D. Franklin
 John L. Gregory
 Bobbie R. Grogan
 Ray T. Hall
 Joe H. Hamilton
 Daniel J. Hays
 James R. Hopkins
 Forrest E. Irving
 Charles F. Jenkins
 Talmage C. Lovelady
 Robert G. Lytle
 Herman R. Miller
 John W. Nicholls
 William A. Payne
 Gilbert P. Richardson
 William K. Rouse
 Raymond L. Story

Alva G. Wade
 Carl O. Wade
 David R. Walden
 Woodrow Wilson
 George A. Winstead
 Beverly G. Yeiser

1933

Paul W. Batsel
 Annette Crawford
 Eddie F. Daniel
 James E. Golden
 Bruce E. Harrison
 Charlie F. Holt
 Cecil F. McDowell
 O.B. Redd
 Charles Redmon
 Furman Wallace

Olin Williams



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